

## Homeless Youth Facts

### Reasons why youth become homeless:

- Domestic violence
- Violence/abuse in the home
- Aging out of Foster Care
- Told to leave by family
- Substance Abuse in family
- Lack of education
- Depression and other mental health problems
- 
- Lack of employment
- Death of a parent/caregiver
- Poverty
- Lack of affordable housing
- Pregnancy
- Kicked out due to conflict over sexual orientation/gender status

### What homeless youth encounter on the streets:

- Violence on the streets
- Exploitation by adults
- Help from *The Night Ministry*

### Homeless youth encounter obstacles to housing:

- Lack of shelter beds and second stage housing programs
- Minimum wage jobs don't pay enough to afford rent, bills, transportation costs, and food
- Lack of safe, affordable daycare for their children
- Lack of health insurance
- Compromised credit records due to identity theft and/or hospital bills
- Criminal records because of minor crimes committed to help them survive
- Landlords not wanting to rent to young people, minors unable to legally rent
- Landlords not wanting to rent to transgender, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, pregnant or parenting youth